(c) The permission has been granted only after verification of the registration certificates, Pollution Under Control Certificates and valid driving licence of the drivers.

(d) Such record is not maintained organization-wise.

Girls' Trafficking in Delhi

3102. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled "Attapadi's unwed mothers tell a tale of tribal exploitation" appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 28th November, 2001;

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto;

(c) whether of late the cases of minor girls ending in trafficking nets are reported in the Press often daily and the Capital has become a great victim for it; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to curb this bad practice throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the Government of Kerala has stated that no incident of turning murders into suicides or rape being treated as willing sex in the police records has come to its notice.

(c) It is incorrect to state that the Capital is turning into a center of trafficking in minor girls. The Delhi Police has been taking strict legal action as and when any such incident is reported. As a result of the concerted efforts to combat trafficking, the Delhi Police rescued 191 minor girls during the year 2001 (upto 30.11.2001).

(d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime including that against women and children is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

The Central/State Governments have been implementing a number of projects/schemes for the rescue and rehabilitation of women and children affected by the flesh trade either through their own agencies or in collaboration with NGOs. These schemes include a scheme called 'Jabali' in Madhya Pradesh which aims at assisting the voluntary organizations to take up activities for the welfare

and development of women and child victims; the Devdasi Rehabilitation Scheme of the Karnataka Government; a project started by Government of Andhra Pradesh for rehabilitation of women victims who are infected with HIV, the Maharashtra Government have set up Special Juvenile homes which are counselling facilities vocational training and health care for children affected by commercial sexual exploitation and HIV/AIDS.

Besides, schemes for training, employment and income generation like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Setting up Training-cum-production Centres (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), TRYSEM and DWACRA are implemented in source areas for the welfare and rehabilitation of prostitutes. In some of the red light areas the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes have been launched. The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Homes and homes set up under the Juvenile Justice Act for protection and rehabilitation of the victims of prostitution.

Indian Farmers of Tripura prevented from pursuing their vocation by BDR and BSF

3103. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poor Indian peasants of 'Muharirchar' under Belonia, Tripura have been cultivating their own land for long;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are being prevented by Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Indian BSF from cultivating their land this year;

(c) whether the Bangladesh peasants are cultivating their land at 'Muharirchar' with the help of BDR; and

(d) what steps Government propose to do to help the Indian peasants of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Muharirchar land area in Tripura is the subject of a boundary dispute between India and Bangladesh. Consequent to an incident resulting in exchange of fire between the Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles in 1999, no fresh cultivation on the disputed land by peasants from either side has been allowed. This is in terms of an agreement between the two sides to maintain status quo in the area pending